

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the 1st paragraph on page 5, lines 1-21, with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 3 represents an item of equipment of an aircraft instrument panel. This item of equipment allows the aircraft pilot to enter data relating to the flight parameters of the aircraft. The equipment comprises a keyboard 15 and the trackball ~~[[11]]~~ 1 mounted in the cover 2. A top portion 16 of the cover 2 allows the pilot to place the palm of the hand thereon. The top portion 16, also called the palm-rest, allows the pilot to steady his hand so that the data entry, particularly with the aid of the trackball, is carried out with precision. The usefulness of the palm-rest can be understood because of the vibrations that exist in the aircraft when it is in flight. The item of equipment represented in figure 3 is usually installed beside the aircraft pilot's seat and the pilot extends his arm downward to place the hand on the palm-rest and operate the keyboard and/or the trackball. This low position of the equipment in the aircraft cockpit makes the equipment sensitive to the risk of penetration of particles, particularly liquid, likely to be deposited on the palm-rest 16.